

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 004571
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07
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DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:MCKING:WSWEISLOGEL/NH
APPROVED BY NEA: ARTHUR R. DAY
-----090131Z 115874 /66

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

S E C R E T STATE 004571

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LY, US

SUBJECT: U.S.-LIBYAN RELATIONS

REF: DAMASCUS 0051

1. SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED BY AMBASSADOR BEN KHAYAL (REFTEL)
RECENTLY HAVE BEEN ITERATED TO USG OFFICIALS BY LARG
REPRESENTATIVES IN MANY CAPITALS. ALTHOUGH USG WOULD
WELCOME IMPROVEMENT IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS, WHICH HAVE
BEEN STRAINED SINCE QADHAFI CAME TO POWER IN 1969, PROSPECTS
FOR SUCH IMPROVEMENT APPEAR TO BE DIM AS LONG AS LARG
ADHERES TO POLICIES WHICH PLACE US IN ADVERSARY POSITIONS
AND AROUSE U.S. PUBLIC CONCERN. LARG'S REQUEST FOR AGRE-
MENT FOR AMBASSADOR TO U.S. AND OTHER OVERTURES APPEAR TO
BE MOTIVATED PRIMARILY BY ITS DESIRE TO PROCURE MILITARY
ITEMS AND NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY IN THE U.S., IN PARTICULAR TO
SECURE THE RELEASE OF EIGHT C-130 AIRCRAFT WHICH LARG HAS
PURCHASED BUT FOR WHICH DEPARTMENT IS WITHHOLDING EXPORT
LICENSES AND TO LESSEN ITS SENSE OF INTERNATIONAL ISOLATION
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PAGE 02 STATE 004571

CAUSED BY ITS OWN EXTREMIST POSITIONS. WE HAVE REPEATEDLY
INFORMED LARG THAT WE CANNOT CHANGE OUR POLICIES TOWARD
LIBYA AS LONG AS IT ACTIVELY OPPOSES AND SEEKS TO UNDERMINE

OUR EFFORTS TOWARD A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE
EAST AND CONDEMNS OTHER COUNTRIES WHO ARE COOPERATING WITH
US. WE ALSO HAVE MADE CLEAR OUR DISAPPROVAL OF SUPPORT,

REFUGE AND TRAINING FACILITIES LIBYA PROVIDES TO INTERNATIONAL TERRORISTS. OUR POLICY IN THIS RESPECT HAS BEEN AND CONTINUES TO BE CONSISTENT WITH SENSE OF SENATE RESOLUTION OF SEPTEMBER 17, 1976, WHICH CALLED ON USG TO REVIEW ITS DIPLOMATIC AND TRADE POLICIES TOWARD LIBYA AND OTHERS WHO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO INTERNATIONAL TERRORISTS.

2. POST ACTION: SHOULD OCCASION ARISE FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT WITH BEN KHAYAL, YOU MAY SAY THAT USG STANDS READY TO RESPOND TO ANY POSITIVE STEPS BY THE LARG WHICH COULD LEAD TO IMPROVED RELATIONS. HOWEVER, CONTINUED LIBYAN ACTIVE OPPOSITION TO PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND CONTINUED SUPPORT OF TERRORISM AND SUBVERSION PRECLUDE CREATION OF AN ATMOSPHERE CONDUCIVE TO IMPROVED RELATIONS.
KISSINGER

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